



# County of Los Angeles

## CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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April 22, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

### **MARCH 25, 2003 BOARD MOTION RE HOMELAND SECURITY PREPAREDNESS FUNDING NEEDS**

On March 25, 2003, on a motion from Supervisor Mike Antonovich, your Board directed the Chief Administrative Office/Office of Emergency Management, Sheriff, Fire, Health, and Coroner to report back in two weeks concerning their preparedness needs and timelines for submitting requests for Homeland Security preparedness funding to the Federal government.

### **BACKGROUND**

On December 10, 2002, the Board authorized the Chief Administrative Office/Office of Emergency Management (CAO/OEM) to manage the grant application process for the State administered Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) '00 and '01 Domestic Preparedness Grant Program. Pursuant to grant guidelines, jurisdictions eligible to receive funds from this grant are Operational Areas (OAs) as defined by the State's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). This includes County government, and the governments of the 88 cities and all special districts. OAs are to coordinate with the cities and special districts identified in their area in the preparation of the grant application, as all activities funded by this program must benefit the OA as a whole. On February 14, 2003, the Los Angeles County Operational Area requested \$2,206,966 in grant funding, of which \$610,144 was requested on behalf of the County. On March 27, 2003, the State approved the Los Angeles County OA '00 and '01 equipment grant submission and we actually received the funds on April 9, 2003.

The CAO/OEM is currently managing the State administered FFY '02 Domestic Preparedness Grant program. This program provides a total of \$3,705,921 for the Los Angeles County Operational Area that can be used to support Equipment purchases

(\$3,491,880), exercises (\$214,041), and grant administration (\$92,648). The Operational Area's application is due to the State on May 16, 2003 and we expect to receive funding on or by June 16, 2003.

The State Office of Homeland Security recently advised operational areas that the Federal '03 Homeland Security grant funds would soon be available to local jurisdictions. This information was based on the Federal government's announcement that \$2 billion was being released to states for state and local terrorism preparedness needs. While the State's guidelines regarding grant criteria and application process have not been released, the State's letter indicated that California's share will be approximately \$45 million with \$10,023,940 earmarked for the Los Angeles County Operational Area. The State has further indicated that this money can be used to support equipment purchases (\$7,011,404), exercises (\$1,772,211), and planning (\$708,660). The State's letter also indicated changes in the approval process at the Operational Area level with the establishment of an Approval Authority consisting of a minimum of the County Public Health Officer or designee responsible for Emergency Medical Services, the County Fire Chief, a Municipal Fire Chief (selected by the Operational Area Fire Chiefs), the County Sheriff, and a Chief of Police (selected by the Operational Area Police Chiefs). While we are still reviewing the implications of the State recommending a specific Approval Authority, it is important to note that our process has always included, as a minimum, representatives from these agencies.

As soon as the detailed State guidance is received, the Office of Emergency Management will organize a meeting of the Operational Area Terrorism Working Group, augmented by an extended group of operational area stakeholders, to review existing priorities and establish procedures for submission of the application by the grant's deadline. The Terrorism Working Group is comprised of representatives from the following agencies: The Sheriff's Department (chair), OEM, Department of Health Services, County Fire, Los Angeles City Police and Fire departments, the Terrorism Early Warning Group, the presidents of the County's independent city police and fire chiefs associations, and, for grant purposes, the Disaster Management Area Coordinators. The process will include an Applicant's Briefing for all 88 cities and an on-line application capability, which will assist County departments and cities to request funds.

## **DEPARTMENTS' NEEDS**

Sheriff, Fire, Health, Coroner, and the Office of Emergency Management have been assembling their preparedness needs for some time. Departmental needs have consistently outstripped the amount of available federal grant dollars. Attachments provide detailed information on needs. Below is a summary of department needs.

### SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENT NEEDS

DEPARTMENT	STAFFING	SERVICES & SUPPLIES	EQUIPMENT	TOTAL
Coroner	\$0	\$24,000	\$906,000	\$930,000
Fire	2,534,000	120,000	2,725,000	5,379,000
Health Services	910,000	12,500,000	1,626,000	15,036,000
Office of Emergency Management	0	0	492,000	492,000
Sheriff	7,170,000	10,726,000	24,628,000	42,524,000
TOTAL	\$10,614,000	\$23,370,000	\$30,377,000	\$64,361,000

Below is a narrative of each department's identified needs.

#### Department of Coroner

The Department is requesting Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), detection equipment, decontamination equipment and vehicles for their Weapons of Mass Destruction-Hazardous Materials (WMD-HAZMAT) team. The team requires the above equipment in order to maintain safety and a continuous response capability.

Resources are needed to train Coroner personnel to wear/use the newly acquired equipment in order to comply with state regulations for PPE wearers/users and decontamination equipment users.

In addition, resources are needed to conduct exercises to improve response to contaminated chemical/biological mass fatality incidents.

#### Fire Department

The Department is requesting personnel to staff the Terrorism Early Warning Group and associated staffing costs. Resources are needed to train personnel on auto injections, Multi-Casualty Mass Decontamination (MCMD), and to take a First Responder Refresher course. In addition, a variety of equipment and vehicles are being requested that are necessary for terrorist incident response.

#### Department of Health Services

The Department's role in a disaster/terrorism event is to provide the organization, mobilization, coordination and direction of medical and health services, both public and private. In order to ensure a level of preparedness, the Department is requesting staff for the Disaster Training Unit, and Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT); a mobile detection unit and devices to support the identification of causative agents, and a mobile

decontamination unit to support victim decontamination activities; Personal Protective Equipment, communication equipment and a response vehicle for the Operational Medicine Team who are responsible for providing direction to the field of responders in an overt terrorist event.

In an effort to strengthen Public Health infrastructure to improve the capability to identify and respond to communicable disease outbreaks and other health threats to the community, the Department is requesting resources to enhance the following programs: Acute Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Programs, Public Health Laboratory, Office of Communications, Information Technology, Epidemiological Rapid Response Unit, Community Response Capacity Unit, Radiation Management, Veterinary Health, and Administration Support.

In addition, in order to establish training programs consistent with national guidelines and competency standards, resources are needed to provide comprehensive training in emergency preparedness and response to public health staff.

#### Office of Emergency Management

With the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center, the City of New York lost their Emergency Operations Center and had to spend millions to reconstitute the facility. The Office is requesting resources to support the County Emergency Operations Center's (CEOC) need for an alternate CEOC as well as a vehicle to provide Emergency Management Information System (EMIS) support for a Field Command Post. In addition, the Office is requesting resources to support an Enhanced Situational Display System. The plasma displays will allow emergency management decision-makers to view computer displays and manipulate the information as needed to facilitate decision-making, thereby eliminating the current time consuming practice of writing data on dry erase boards.

#### Sheriff's Department

The Department is requesting additional command personnel and support staff in the Emergency Operations Bureau/Terrorism Early Warning Group to effectively manage the increased workload of the group.

The Department also requires additional personnel in the following Specialized Units: Special Enforcement Bureau, Aero Bureau, and Arson/Explosives Detail. These units each have a unique and specialized function which supports anti-terrorism efforts on a countywide scale.

In addition, the Department requires resources to fund two replacement Command Post vehicles, enhance the existing CEOC facility, develop a state-of-the-art Emerging Threat Workspace (to provide capability within the existing CEOC to develop new and

advanced technologies and doctrine to support decision-makers), Personal Protective Equipment that will equip the Sheriff's and selected County-wide Mutual Aid personnel from local law enforcement agencies with items necessary for terrorist incident response, to train and conduct exercises for first responders to mitigate the potential effects of a variety of terrorist-related threats.

## CONCLUSION

Based on established priorities, it is reasonable to anticipate that some portion of the needs identified in the Attachments may be met through FFY '02 and '03 grants; however, a very large unmet need will still exist.

The County continues to pursue all available grants, both through terrorism preparedness grants coordinated by the Office of Emergency Management and grants that target specific disciplines for which individual departments apply on their own.

We will continue to advise your Board of any further developments. If your staff has any questions regarding this information, please have them contact Constance Perett at (323) 980-2261, email at [cperett@lacoec.org](mailto:cperett@lacoec.org), or Bob Garrott at (323) 980-2269, [rgarrott@lacoec.org](mailto:rgarrott@lacoec.org).

DEJ:CP  
RWG:cm

## Attachments

c:     Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
       County Counsel  
       Emergency Management Council